

From: Jason Gilbert
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 12:13pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I think the proposed settlement is completely inadequate to prevent further monopolistic abuse from Microsoft.

However, in order to not just provide negative without some positive suggestion, here is my remedy.

- 1) Force Microsoft to not change file formats in Office products to force consumer upgrades. How many users would actually upgrade if they didn't have to be compatible with other users/companies that had upgraded.
- 2) Make the file formats publicly available and any changes must go through a public review process. The file formats have (for better or worse) become a defacto standard interchange format. They should most likely be controlled by an existing standards body.
- 3) Microsoft must ship Office products with the default save format being the standard format and every attempt should be made to keep the user from inadvertently saving in a non-standard format.

Aside from these issues, forcing the release of a windows 2000/XP based OS that only provides the core OS (no IE, IIS, etc) would be advantageous. It might actually be an OS we could use.

Hoping this doesn't go into an abyss,

jason

Jason Gilbert
Homewood, AL

--

"First, they ignore you. Then they laugh at you.
Then they fight you. Then you win" -- Mahatma Gandhi